



Masked MIT students hold a socially distanced picnic on Killian Friday, Sept. 11.

Virtual Fall Career Fair series to run Sept. 21-Oct. 22

Career Exploration Week to include Graduate School Exploration events, unlike previous years

By Mauricio Barba da Costa,
Wenbo Wu, and Kerri Lu

The Fall Career Fair will be held virtually in the form of a Career Exploration Week Sept. 21-25 and a series of six smaller career fair sessions Sept. 25-Oct. 22. According to the Career Fair website, this year's Career Fair will emphasize graduate school exploration, sustainability, and diversity, equity, and inclusion, in addition to job and internship opportunities.

The six smaller sessions each have a different career focus: government, non-profit, and social impact (Sept. 25); consulting, data analytics, finance, investment, and trading (Oct. 1); healthcare, pharmaceuticals, and sciences (Oct. 6); hardware, robotics, and software (Oct. 8); chemical, manufacturing, materials, supply chain, and sustainability (Oct. 21); and aerospace, defense, energy, environment, sustainability, and transportation (Oct. 22).

The Career Fair will utilize the Brazen hiring platform. Students can register for events through the Career Fair website through Handshake or Brazen. Student registration opened Sept. 2, and Brazen registration will close on the day each event is held. Brazen has text, audio, and video chat capabilities, as well as a virtual booth feature for recruiters.

Unlike previous years, MIT will not have a student holiday during the career fair. Additionally, there will be no official Interview Day, and each company will coordinate its own interviews.

Additionally, unlike previous years, Career Exploration Week will include several "Graduate School Exploration" events, including information sessions with graduate and professional schools and a panel with current graduate students.

The Career Fair website contains a statement on diversity, equity, and inclusion in solidarity with this sum-

mer's protests against "the systemic issues of racism in this country" and "the tragic loss of black lives at the hands of police."

The Career Fair directors "recognize our partnership with companies that have actively participated in discrimination and other injustices" and "are saddened by how many of them have profited off of these systems of injustice," the website writes. "The Directors hope to set the foundations for pursuing relationships with ethical companies and in 2020, we will hold every Fall Career Fair employer to a certain standard when they are interacting with MIT students."

Companies that violate the Equal Employment Opportunity guidelines, the National Association of Colleges and Employers Principles for Employment Professionals, or MIT CAPD recruiting guidelines "will no longer have their planned access to MIT career facilities or be denied access to MIT official re-

cruiting" and information about the violating company's infraction "will be distributed to campus student groups."

The Career Fair website also encourages students to ask companies about their "sustainability related initiatives" and sustainability-related job opportunities. The webpage writes that students should look "into recent industry-specific trends in sustainability to tailor [their] questions to ones that are most important" to a company's particular industry.

MIT students will also have access to Harvard's Biotech Club Fair (Oct. 5-6); Harvard's Data Analytics, Science, and Technology Fair (Oct. 9); the Harvard-MIT Media, Marketing, Humanities, and Creative Careers Expo (Oct. 15); Harvard College Business School Night (Oct. 28); and Harvard College Law School Night (Nov. 11).

Like last year, companies with the "First Year Friendly" label on Hand-

shake and Brazen are interested in "engaging in conversations and exploration" with first year students. Companies with the label "First Year Friendly Plus" are "actively recruiting students who are in their first year at MIT."

According to an FAQ, students who are unable to attend the Career Fair events due to time zone differences can review information for each of the fairs and "contact company representatives to learn more" about positions. Students may also find MIT alumni at companies of interest through the MIT Alumni Directory or Advisors Hub with which to conduct an informational interview.

Candidates and employers can contact the career fair committee at cf-directors@mit.edu. Individuals may also join an employer mailing list on the website "for up-to-date communications and future information about the MIT Fall Career Fair."

IN SHORT

The deadline for submission of the **Minor Completion Form** for final-term seniors is Friday.

Career Week will take place Monday through Friday next week.

Interested in joining *The Tech*? Email join@tech.mit.edu.

Send news and tips to news@tech.mit.edu.

Five percent of upperclassmen take leave of absence

About five percent of upperclassmen — 25 sophomores, 76 juniors, and 70 seniors — opted to take leaves of absence (LOAs) for the fall term, Student Support Services Associate Dean James Collins wrote in an email to *The Tech*.

Under the terms of a LOA, a student in good academic standing can request to take between

one to four semesters away from MIT. Students may choose to take a leave "for a break, a change of direction or emphasis, or even to take advantage of educational, research, travel, or volunteer opportunities," according to the Student Financial Services website.

Collins wrote that "many" of the students taking a LOA this

semester "are extending their summer internships" or "have secured or are pursuing new internships."

In Fall 2019, 22 students requested a LOA; in Fall 2018, 30 students did so. Collins wrote that S3 "expected more LOA requests this year than in previous years" but "didn't make any

predictions" given "the unprecedented circumstances."

While first years are not eligible to request LOAs, 87 first year students opted to take a gap year. Dean of Admissions Stu Schmill '86 wrote in an email to *The Tech* that typically "between 10 and 15 students will defer in a given year."

— Srinidhi Narayanan

HUA JUN'S QI

The tragedy of magic in *Mulan*. **ARTS**, p. 3

HARD CONVERSATIONS

Keep an open mind, ask questions, and learn. **OPINION**, p. 4



MULAN

Goodbye, Mushu. **ARTS**, p. 3

AMERICAN NATIONALISM

Discovering the rest of the Asian diaspora as an Asian-American. **CAMPUS LIFE**, p. 5

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Student COVID-19 policy noncompliance should be reported to online form

Off-campus from Page 1

are in compliance with state and local guidance," Nelson wrote.

She added that MIT will revisit its policies and if needed, "adjust them to reflect prevailing public health guidance, current conditions, and our evolving understanding of best practices for preventing COVID-19 transmission."

All students must wear their student IDs visibly while accessing campus spaces outside of their residence hall, Nelson wrote in her first email.

Students living on campus must follow occupancy limits, wear face coverings and maintain six feet of physical distance when accessing campus spaces. Student center spaces, barbecue pits near Kresge Auditorium, and an area near the Dupont Tennis Courts are also available for reservation, Nelson wrote. Outdoor common areas like Killian Court and Hockfield Court are also open, with signs stating maximum occupancy levels. The

Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation indoor facilities are also open to individuals who have been granted access to campus.

Students who violate MIT's COVID-19 policies may face suspension, removal from MIT housing, or loss of campus access. Other potential consequences include the suspension of a student organization, restriction of a student's access to certain parts of campus, or "restriction of residence hall privileges such as pod membership or access to lounges, kitchens, or other residential spaces," according to the MIT Now website.

Students charged with noncompliance will be required to meet with the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (OSCCS) within one day of receiving a notice letter from the OSCCS. Students will not be able to submit a written statement during the disciplinary process but "will be permitted to respond during the meeting with OSCCS," according to the website.

The Committee on Discipline (COD) has "delegated authority" on COVID-19 policy violations to the OSCCS due to the "unique risk factors associated with students returning to campus and the need to take immediate action to address noncompliance," the website writes.

A similar expedited disciplinary policy has been implemented for faculty and staff, according to a MIT Human Resources webpage.

Nelson wrote in an email to *The Tech* that house teams, made up of graduate resident advisors, area directors, and heads of house (HoHs) are required to report COVID-19 policy violations. Additionally, "anyone on or off campus who sees instances of noncompliance are encouraged to share that information with MIT." Reporting may be done through an OSCCS online form or at <http://hotline.mit.edu/>.

Nelson wrote to *The Tech* that while not all the COVID-19 Student Life policies apply to off-campus students, the "Events and Party Policy" and the Mind and Hand Book

policies do. "For example, if a neighbor or a dean from another university reports to MIT that one of our students hosted a party that posed a risk for spreading COVID-19, MIT would be able to address the situation directly with the student who hosted the party and other MIT students involved as necessary."

Nelson wrote to *The Tech* that the expedited disciplinary process follows the "same fundamental principles of fairness and consistency used by the COD and has the support of the faculty leaders who serve on the Committee."

She added that "this is an extraordinary time when even one person's behavior may have critical public health ramifications." The policies are there to "help reduce the spread of the virus, respond to incidents quickly, and keep the community safe."

Danielle Grey-Stewart '21, head of Policy Reports in the Undergraduate Association Committee on COVID-19, wrote in an email to *The Tech* that the committee

worked with the Division of Student Life over the summer to "relax the indoor common space policies," "mitigate isolation caused by strict housing policies," pilot the pod program with summer residents, implement pod lounges, and "relax the prominence and role of the new Allied Universal guards in dorms."

Grey-Stewart added that there were "many policies in which we did not all agree on, such as the guest policy for undergraduates on campus. With the many stakeholders such as the HoHs and upper administration, it was sometimes difficult to meet all of the interests and find common ground."

Grey-Stewart wrote that the committee has not yet received "direct feedback on the disciplinary policies." However, the committee hopes to "further engage undergraduates on their experiences with campus life, remote learning, and COVID-19 policies," and use undergraduate student feedback to "guide our committee's initiatives for this semester."

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Provost and deans of Sloan and College of Computing respond to letter on Luis Videgaray

This is a response to an article published Sept. 9, "Why Luis Videgaray must leave MIT."

To the editor,
A letter published in *The Tech* last week called upon MIT to end the ap-

pointment of MIT Senior Lecturer Luis Videgaray, a former finance minister and foreign minister for Mexico, and MIT graduate alumnus (PhD, Economics, 1998).

Mr. Videgaray has been a valuable contributor both at Sloan and at the Schwarzman College of Computing, where he is part of MIT's efforts to create a global collaboration on AI policy. His understanding of policymaking and government relations is an asset to our work, as is his engagement with students and other members of the community.

Luis has provided regular and forthright updates to MIT faculty and administrative leaders on the various legal reviews now underway regarding the former presi-

dential administration of Mexico, in which he served, and MIT is monitoring the situation closely. Mr. Videgaray has issued a public statement defending his record as a public servant and rejecting allegations that have been made, and, notably, no charges have been filed against him. Mr. Videgaray remains a welcome member of the MIT community.

Professor Martin A. Schmidt PhD '88, Provost

Professor David C. Schmittlein, Dean, MIT Sloan School of Management

Professor Daniel Huttenlocher PhD '88, Dean, MIT Schwarzman College of Computing

GUEST COLUMN

How conversations flipped my political views

Difficult discussions have the power to foster change

By Ryan Normandin

Finding the courage to engage with ignorance can make an enormous impact; it certainly did for me. I stepped onto MIT's campus as a staunch conservative. Conversation after conversation, I learned from people who had experienced life in dramatically different ways, and my political belief system crumbled. While my academic experience at MIT charted my career, my fellow students, diverse and brilliant, changed my life. They proved that hearts and minds can be changed by those with whom one disagrees.

I grew up in a town in Massachusetts with a population that is 97.5% white. It is conservative, favoring the Republican candidate in every Senate and presidential election since 2008. On its community website, those promoting tolerance are shouted down by others asserting that "All Lives Matter."

I stepped onto MIT's campus as a staunch conservative.

Upon arriving at MIT, I argued against universal health care (because capitalism was good, wasn't it?). I believed that "color blindness" was the solution to racism (because if you wanted to eliminate discrimination, then why not stop discriminating?). I wrote articles opposing same-sex marriage and advocating for the deportation of undocumented immigrants (because the law was the law, and didn't laws need to be upheld?). These positions naively made sense to a guy like me: privileged, straight, cis-gendered, white, and unencumbered by real humans with real experiences.

Over my freshman and sophomore years, my political beliefs were transformed by conversations with people who had extremely different experiences in life. American capitalism props up the few at the expense of the many. Color blindness simply maintains the racist status quo; actively anti-racist practices are necessary for change. So many laws today actively discriminate against marginalized people. The rights of LGBTQ+ and other marginalized people are human rights, and undocumented immigrants aren't criminals, but victims of a broken system and horrible circumstances.

I am so grateful to everyone who challenged my views, and I've worked since to do the same for others. By earnestly engaging with friends, students, and members of my community, I've found that change really can happen. From helping skeptical people to better understand COVID-19 data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to dispelling racist beliefs, I've found success with the following framework:

I am so grateful to everyone who challenged my views, and I've worked since to do the same for others.

1. Assume a willingness to engage in good faith until proven wrong. Remember that people whom we see as villains, in fiction and in real life, often see themselves as the heroes. If I'm talking with someone who expresses a racist viewpoint, calling them a racist and walking away is not going to change their mind. If anything, it will only embolden them as the hero, standing up against the intolerant, name-calling liberal. The individual expressing that view may be a die-hard racist, but they may also be ignorant or misinformed. *Don't assume they're one or the other; find out.*

2. Do your research. By being informed, you can point others to useful articles or data that will help them understand your position better. Particularly in the world of social media, good fact-checking websites are your friend, as misinformation runs rampant. Gauging how others respond to the data you share is an excellent way to check whether someone is engaging in good faith.

3. Keep your cool. Particularly when discussing sensitive issues electronically, it can be tempting to fire off a snarky one-liner; don't. *If you're feeling heated, don't respond immediately.* Be thoughtful about your response and work to address the actual points raised by the other person.

4. Ask questions. One of the best ways to change someone's mind is to reveal that they're operating off incorrect assumptions, incomplete data, or personal biases. Ask them why they believe what they do, what data they have to justify it,

or what kind of evidence would be sufficient to change their position. Whether you are better understanding the other person's position or finding out that you are actually the one who is wrong, asking questions communicates your own willingness to engage in good faith. It's hard to caricature the "other side" as villains if they're politely curious about your beliefs.

5. Be open-minded and self-aware. When two people disagree on something, if it's not a semantic issue, then usually one of them is wrong; sometimes, it's you. Admit it. Learn from it.

6. Grow and be better. Sometimes, even if you're right, you may discover that an argument or a piece of evidence you were using is wrong. Don't dig in your heels; thank the other person for pointing it out and move on. Though often portrayed as a weakness, the ability to change your mind in light of new information is a great strength.

You may leave the conversation feeling frustrated, ineffectual, and angry. While the discussion itself may not be enough to change someone's mind, the echoes of what you both say live on. If they were engaging in good faith, but perhaps were unwilling to admit they were wrong or ignorant, they may do more research in private. They may, over time, correct their own flaws because you planted that first seed of self-examination.

Though often portrayed as a weakness, the ability to change your mind in light of new information is a great strength.

Every day, I work to create a safe, accepting classroom for my students, teach critical thinking, and encourage them to learn from mistakes (as I continue to do). To anyone reading this, I encourage you to do the same in your own spheres. Seek out diversity, put in the work to learn from those around you, question your own unexamined beliefs and biases, and quash ignorant, hateful beliefs. Together, we can create a better world.

*Ryan Normandin is a member of the Class of 2013 and a former opinion editor and columnist for *The Tech*.*

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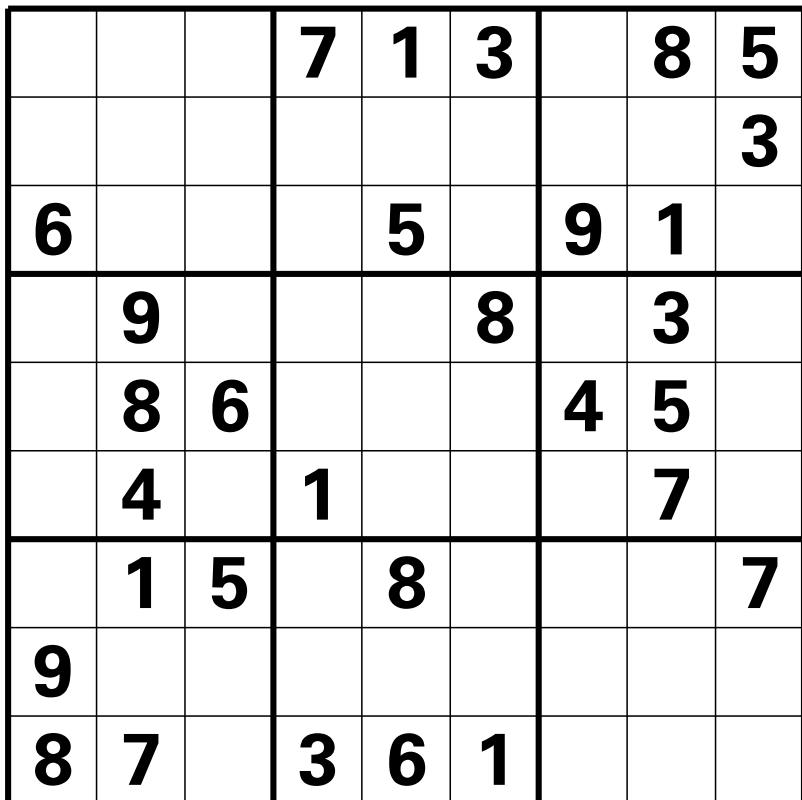
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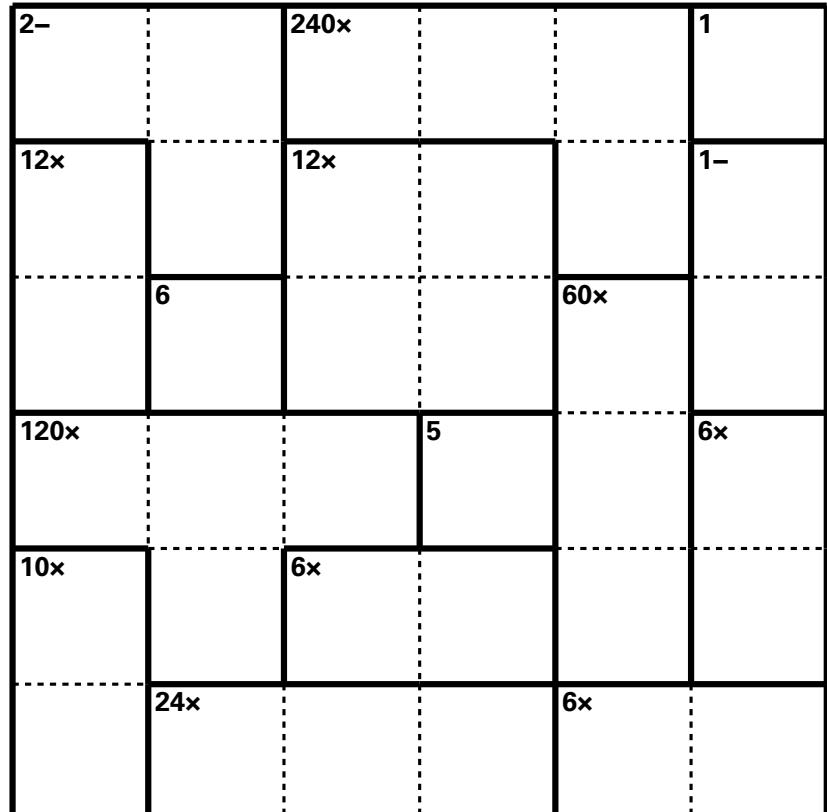
Solution, page 8



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FBI

Solution, page 8



Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1–6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

Have Some Veggies by Gail Grabowski

Solution, page 8

ACROSS

1 Capital of Italy
5 On the roof of
9 Took an oath in court
14 Region
15 Moccasin or loafer
16 Basic credo
17 "Red planet" beyond Earth
18 Small or extra large
19 Expressway entrances
20 Green veggie pieces in BLTs
23 Make angry
24 Sailor's "yes"
25 Work at something casually
29 Tennis court dividers
31 Household cat or dog
34 White heron
35 Boyfriend
36 Sheet of glass
37 Small cabbagelike veggi
40 Camper's shelter
41 Remote's volume-off button

42 Tiny spot of land in the ocean

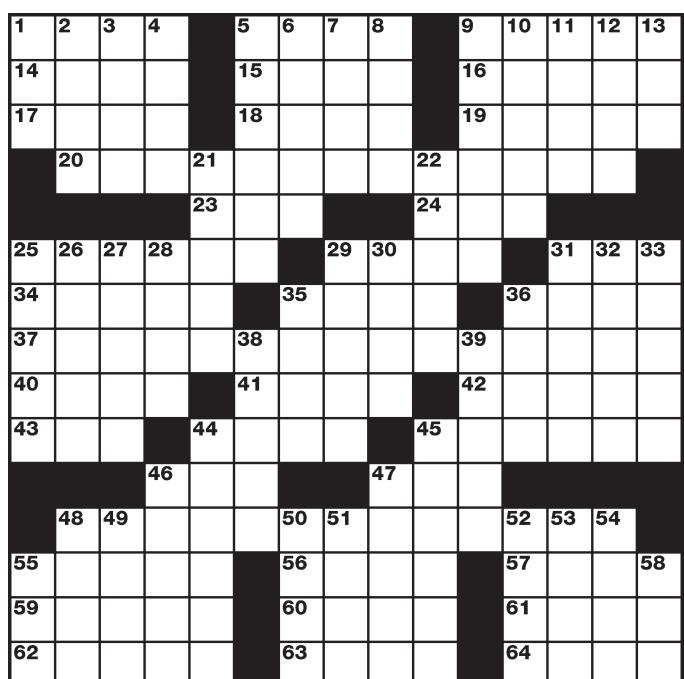
43 Full collection
44 Top poker cards
45 Asparagus servings
46 "___ you kidding?"
47 "Steady as ___ goes"
48 Orange veggies cut for vegetable soup
55 Dog walker's strap
56 Evaluate
57 Small perfume bottle
59 "Bald" bird
60 Extremely dry, as a desert
61 Otherwise
62 Double-curve letters
63 Change for a \$20 bill
64 Sit for a bit

DOWN

1 Male sheep
2 Word-of-mouth
3 A ___ pittance (very little money)
4 Sunrise direction
5 Make free from doubt

6 Not thin, as a slice of meat
loaf

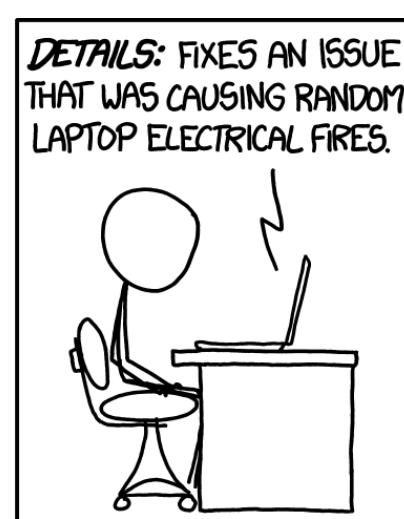
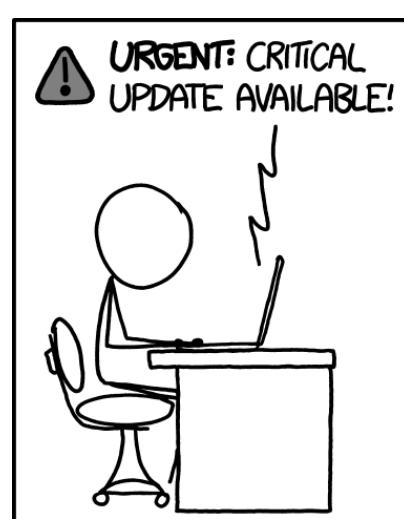
- 7 Seep
- 8 Banana covering
- 9 Wanders off
- 10 Use a loom
- 11 "My turn to treat you all"
- 12 Sales agents, for short
- 13 UFO pilots
- 21 Leans slightly
- 22 Consume completely
- 25 Amounts owed
- 26 Think alike
- 27 Main impact
- 28 Highest in quality
- 29 Homes for robins
- 30 Make simpler
- 31 Pop singer __ Abdul
- 32 Go inside
- 33 Midterms and finals
- 35 Color of a clear sky
- 36 Sit for a portrait
- 38 Game show host
- 39 More fit for harvesting
- 44 Curved parts of feet
- 45 Turns paper to confetti



- 46 Theater walkway
- 47 Gown's shiny fabric
- 48 Salty bodies of water
- 49 Falls behind
- 50 "Darn it!"
- 51 Glitter

- 52 Higher than
- 53 Kitchen-flooring piece
- 54 Talk back to
- 55 Harper who wrote . . .
Mockingbird
- 56 All

[1328] Update



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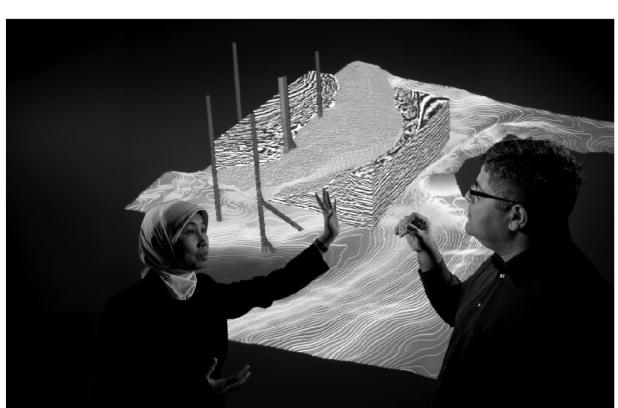
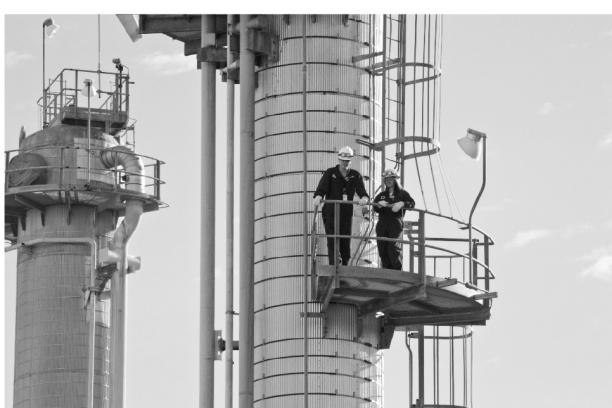
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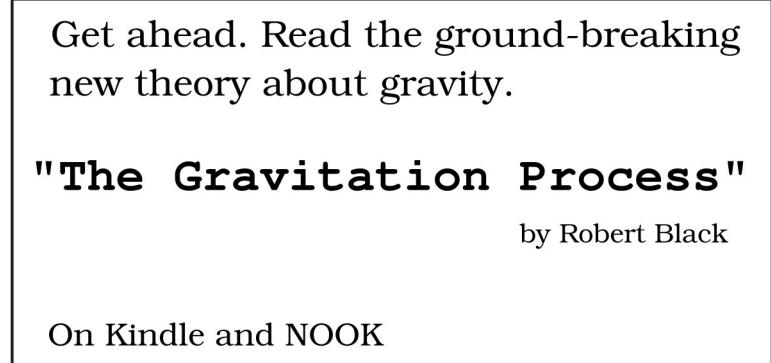
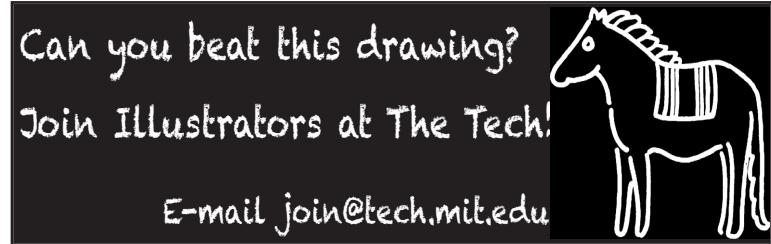


Solution to Plot from page 6								
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Solution to Have Some from page 6								
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EGRET	B	PANE						
BRUSSELSSPROUTS	S							
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SLICEDCARROTS	D							
LEASH	R	ATE	V	IAL				
EAGLE	A	RID	E	ELSE				
ESSES	T	N	S	REST				

Solution to FBI from page 6								
6	3	5	4	2	1			
4	1	3	2	6	5			
3	6	2	1	5	4			
1	4	6	5	3	2			
2	5	1	6	4	3			
5	2	4	3	1	6			

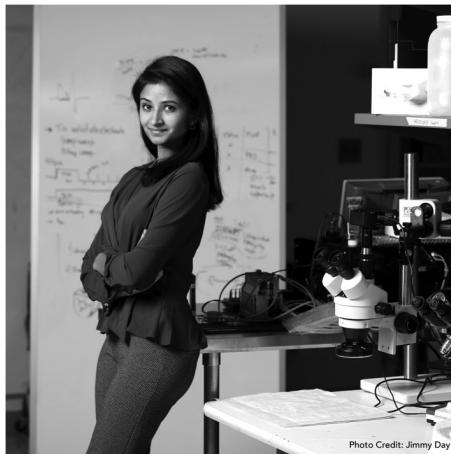
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Hello, Athletes, look at the sports page, now back to you, now back to the sports page, now back to you. Sadly, your sport isn't there, but if you started writing for <i>The Tech</i> , it could be. Look down, back up, where are you? You're on the front page. Anything is possible when you write for <i>The Tech</i> .								
sports@tech.mit.edu								



CONGRATULATIONS

Shriya Srinivasan and Tzu-Chieh Tang

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Shriya is making advances for amputees that restore a sense of touch and better mobility.



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